



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the month of October has been recognized as National Arts and Humanities Month by thousands of arts and cultural organizations, communities, and states across the country, as well as by the White House and Congress for more than two decades; and

**WHEREAS**, National Arts and Humanities month was initiated to encourage Americans to explore new facets of the arts and humanities in their lives, and to begin a lifelong habit of participation in the arts and humanities; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities affect every aspect of life in America today, including the economy, social problem solving, job creation, education, creativity, and community livability; and

**WHEREAS**, the arts and humanities enhance and enrich the lives of every American, including those of us living in and visiting Ocala/Marion County; and

**WHEREAS**, the local nonprofit arts sector also strengthens our local economy. The Arts & Economic Prosperity Study VI (2022), found that the local creative sector generated \$53.2 million annually in total economic activity, supported 800 jobs, provided \$21.2 million in personal income to residents, and generated \$7.8 million in tax revenue to local, state, and federal governments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben Marciano**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2024 as:

## **National Arts and Humanities Month**

in Ocala and I call upon our residents to celebrate and promote and participate in the arts and cultural activities and events available in our community and to specifically encourage the greater participation by those said residents in engaging the arts.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 17th day of September 2024.

*Ben Marciano*

Ben Marciano, Mayor  
City of Ocala

